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Department of State: To Whom It May Concern:

It is my understanding that there are some Federal Regulations that are being considered that may impact the ability of the small adoption agency to continue working in the future. The changes may on the surface appear good, providing unity and standards; however, the cost of implementation to the small agency may put them out of business.

I am currently in the process of adopting a daughter from Guatemala and selected Thursday's Child as my adoption agency. Part of the reason for I chose this particular agency was that Thursday's Child was small, but had been in the adoption field for more that 20 years. I had received a personal referral from a co worker who had a good experience, and then reviewed detailed information that had been provided by the agency. Thursday's Child package of information was one of the most comprehensive and complete, allowing me to really review my options. I felt confident about the work they had done in the past, and knew that I would be getting guidance based on experience.

I am going to be a single mother, and I have a wonderful support system, both from my family and friends. It is with the details of adoption and working through the paperwork and the International changes and issues that I knew would require extra support. I have received that from Thursday's Child. Guatemala has gone through many International changes related to adoptions this past year. I have always received updates and answers to my inquiries in a timely manner. Several other families I have talked with in this same situation have not received the type of one on one support that I have experienced.

Please make sure whatever regulations are put in place, take into consideration the needs of the smaller agencies. Smaller agencies are essential to working through all of the complicated aspects of the adoption process.

Thank you,
Lisa Salvatore
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